46, Gordon Square,
Bloomsbury. Sep 1

My Billy.

I don't know whether you will get this, but I suppose I must waste one of my valuable letters on you on the chance. I imagine if you can't write till Thursday - today that is - that letters won't get to you very often either. I am now alone, as Saxon went yesterday, & find it rather

soothing. Clive is coming up for a night either tomorrow or Monday, by which time I hope the downstairs is beginning to sort. I shall have a good many preparations to make for Studland as the time will go quickly. I had Saxon tea yesterday. He is at present contemplating the making of a toy theatre, for which we shall all have to paint scenery etc. & so we spent a good deal of time talking of it. When Saxon was gone

on to a subject of that kind he devotes a great deal of attention to it. He said with perhaps a touch of acerbity that neither you or Adrian had written to him. I think he is very much pleased at having been asked to Shetland & is already considering what games he will play there. He seems to have no plans or prospects afterwards, so no doubt he will stay on with you after he leaves us, indefinitely, if you wish it. What would Jean say? I have had no letters at all except from Clive - Doma, he says, is becoming a tack hunter in Scandal Society

& he thinks she knows it.
Dorothy is still inseparable
from Mr Dawes - but the Baby's
view of the affair is that he
understands that she does
not mean to marry him
& has accepted the situation.
He is lovely here now & I
believe we shall have a
fine September after all.
How gorgeous it will be if
we do. I get most entertaining
accounts of Julian, who
was actually tearful because
he had been led to expect by
the stupid old nurse that I was
coming & had to be told that I
wasn't. Which is very touching
isn't it? I think maternal instinct
grows with succeeding births. I have
more for this one than I had for Sylvia or Vera.

46, Gordon Square,
Bloomsbury. Sep-2.

My Billy

You don't seem to have spent very long at the Scilly's, but Saxon said there wasn't much to do or see there. I can't quite make out what your movements are. You will be at Penzance tomorrow I suppose as you let me to write there today. Probably you won't have had the letter I wrote to the Scillys but you won't have

missed anything. Clive is
here today & stays the night
& I am expecting a visit
from Kate this afternoon,
on her way to the station
as usual. NYPL I have been
sitting up for a long time
this morning & am going
to get up again for tea.
So you see I am rapidly
recovering the use of
my legs. The boat is
now a fortnight old & from

big as me works at him
Tell Jean, who will
appreciate the fact, that he
has gained ½ lb in the fortnight
He has such an appetite
that I am only going to attempt
to feed him until we get
to Studland & shall then
put him entirely on to a
cow — you'll be glad to hear.
I put on a dress this
morning & was pleased to
find myself with a figure
again — It feels so odd to
have no baby inside one
after all those months &
so comfortable. I am con-
sidering all kinds of alterations

vanities.

I suppose you will get this letter. After this I don't know where to write. I hope you don't mean to come back on Monday, for really you won't want to hang in London & I'm sure the less you have of it the

NYPL

better at present.

Please thank Jean for her letter & tell her I hope very much she'll come & see me before we go away. I should be most grateful for a visit.

Yours

B.

Rota 9/72

Harbour View
Skidland

46, Gordon Square,
Bloomsbury. Oct 3

My Billy.
We at last succeeded in getting to Corfe Castle yesterday so I had no time to write to you & this morning I have missed the post. So I suppose you won't get this till tomorrow evening or possibly Tuesday morning & you will curse me in consequence. We are at this moment deeply grateful to you for your handsome present. for it has just stopped raining & is still grey & windy & apparently about to rain again & we have installed ourselves in your room

I have not yet examined
Wimbish history but it kept
Julian happy for 5 minutes.
I went by train to Corfe yes-
terday & we had luncheon in
an ancient inn & then I did
a sketch - the whole country
was like a steer & so was
the day - I expected to see
many Shadeites perched on
the surrounding hills like my-
self - but luckily the season
was too late for them & all
have disappeared - like you
at the most beautiful moment.
We had a strange walk
home through mists - just
the kind of atmospheric effects

that would have provided you with copy. Clive had an odd adventure at the end of it with a snow white creature who shrieked like a child - but it had better be left in mystery. I had a conversation with Norton, after Clive had gone to bed. Tolerably interesting, but the ignorance of the well brought up young today & about love-affairs. We talk a great deal - mostly about Sodomites & the whole question of Sodomy & love in general. I find it odd, the way in which the minds of the rising generation seem to be almost perpetually & wholly engrossed in love - their own & others' - You & I

in my young days paid it comparatively little attention - even I did, with all my native frankness. But perhaps she exaggerates the atmosphere in which they live.

The pate which you bought for us seems to have been lost on the way - Did you pay for it or what happened? We are rather bewailing the prospect of our evening meal in consequence.

I suppose you will see Lytton soon - I think it is as well he didn't come here for he would have hated the discomfort.

Yours VB

NYPL

Rota 9172

53

1910

Studland. [Monday]

Jul 10

My Billy.

The doctor has been & thinks Claudian better. I have settled however to go on Thursday. as it really does seem to be more convenient about the wash & one day more does not make much difference. I dont mind as long as I know for certain. & the doctor thought it would be all right to go then. So I am making my arrangements accordingly. It has turned out a most

gorgeous day. Is it like this in London? I have had a short letter from Eustace in which he says that they are "very very happy & that it is all splendid". Also an amazing effusion from Violet - "Has the old Scout had a baby too, we had to go to some theatricals & felt like going to be naughty who should creep up but Aunt Nina. My knees feel rather rheumatichy - etc etc I can't make head or tail of it. I really think she must be more crazed than ever. She ends up "I hear

Sargent had really weather for his work in August.' / What an odd thing to hear & what a still odder to repeat / It sounds as if Sargent ought to have been exempt from everybody else's weather... but I suppose it gives an atmosphere of fashionable ant to her letter.

I have no telegram from Harry & so I'm sure he can't be coming. I think I shall write & tell him I'm going back on Thursday. Shall I ask Lytton to dine with me before Clive returns? I can't make up my mind. Perhaps you'll have

him to tea today or you may find he has already been.

Give Adrian the enclosed with my love & tell him I hoped he ever thought of proposing he had better look at this. Perhaps you'd better have it for your book if he doesn't want it always with him or I can send another.

Yours AB.

T. PARSONS 3.2.73